

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-08 OES-07 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 OMB-01 /041 R

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NOAA/OA6:NJOHNSON
IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK

-----074891 220427Z /20

R 212250Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 129288

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:AORG, WMO

SUBJECT: WMO PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1980-1983

REF: GENEVA 7594

1. DEPT APPRECIATES MISSION'S COMMENTS AND GUIDANCE ON WMO SECRETARY GENERAL'S PROGRAM AND BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR THE EIGHTH FINANCIAL PERIOD (1980-83) WHICH WILL BE ADOPTED BY THE WMO CONGRESS IN 1979. DEPT HAS BEEN REVIEWING DOCUMENT 22 WITH NOAA AND OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES IN ORDER TO DEVELOP US POSITION FOR PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS AT 30TH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BEGINNING NEXT WEEK. MISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS THEREFORE PARTICULARLY TIMELY AND VALUABLE.

2. FOR PURPOSE OF COMPARISON DEPT AND NOAA HAVE BEEN WORKING ON BASIS OF FACT THAT PERCENTAGE INCREASES RECOMMENDED IN THE SYG PROPOSALS RELATE TO TWO FOUR-YEAR PERIODS (1976-UNCLASSIFIED

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1979 AND 1980-1983), AND THAT FOR ASSESSMENT OF ACTUAL INCREASES FOCUS SHOULD BE GIVEN TO YEAR BY YEAR PROGRESSION. ON BASIS OF SUCH METHOD OF COMPARISON, ACTUAL YEARLY INCREASES ARE AT AN 8.65 PERCENT LEVEL (3.99 PERCENT FOR MANDATORY INCREASES AND 4.68 PERCENT FOR EXPANDING ACTIVITIES). COMPARISON OF TWO FOUR-YEAR PERIODS IN TOTO WOULD, OF COURSE, SHOW A 51.8 PERCENT INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS PERIOD

AS MISSION POINTS OUT.

3. AFTER REMOVAL OF SEVERAL INCONSISTENCIES AND AFTER URGING SHIFTS IN PRIORITIES IN THE PROGRAM/BUDGET, TO REFLECT MORE EFFECTIVE USE OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES, DEPT FEELS THAT RESULTING REDUCTIONS WILL BRING BUDGET TO LEVEL US COULD ACCEPT GIVEN OUR MAJOR INTEREST IN MOST PROGRAMS COVERED BY THE BUDGET. WORLD CLIMATE PROGRAM, FOR EXAMPLE, WILL BE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL COMPONENT OF US NATIONAL CLIMATE PROGRAM NOW BEING DEVELOPED WITH A US INTERAGENCY BUDGET AT LEVEL OF APPROXIMATELY HALF BILLION DOLLARS. SIMILARLY, THE GLOBAL ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH PROGRAM (GARP) IS ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF SEVERAL US INTERAGENCY PROGRAMS IN ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH. WEATHER MODIFICATION, HYDROLOGY, THE EXPANSION OF USE OF METEOROLOGICAL SATELLITES, TROPICAL CYCLONE STUDIES, ARE ALL PROGRAMS OF MAJOR INTEREST TO THE US WHICH HAVE RECEIVED STRONG US CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT. IN THIS CONNECTION, US LEGISLATION ON CLIMATE PROGRAMS CALLS FOR INTERNATIONAL ACTION.

4. DEPT AND NOAA AGREE WITH MISSION THAT HIGH GRADE AND OFFICE OF DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES PROGRAM SHOULD BE ELIMINATED. OTHER PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTED IN PARA 4 REFTEL SHOULD BE EXAMINED WITH THE VIEW OF ESTABLISHING THEIR UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTUAL VALIDITY, NEED FOR PERSONNEL AND DISPROPORTIONATE NUMBER OF HIGH GRADES.

5. DEPT AND NOAA ALSO FULLY AGREE WITH MISSION IN QUESTIONING NEED TO ESTABLISH FIELD REGIONAL OFFICES AND A WMO LIAISON OFFICE AT UN HEADQUARTERS. USREP AT EC WILL REITERATE US OPPOSITION TO THE CONSIDERABLE INCREASES THAT WOULD DERIVE FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH NON-JUSTIFIED PROPOSALS.

6. USREP WILL ALSO CAREFULLY REVIEW SOME OF THE PROGRAMS WHICH, ALTHOUGH NOT SPECIFICALLY DEFINED AS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, MAY ENTAIL A DE FACTO ASSISTANCE COMPONENT.

7. US PERMREP WILL ATTACH REFTEL TO HIS GUIDANCE PAPERS AND WILL DRAW FROM IT AS APPROPRIATE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE129288
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FSLANCETTI
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780214-1192
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780535/aaaabdun.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c0cf8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 7594
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2622641
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WMO PROPOSED PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1980-1983
TAGS: AORG, WMO
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c0cf8a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014